

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Review Item:**

703 KAR 5:140, Requirements for school and district report cards

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 158.6453

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** KRS 158.6453 requires that: “The Kentucky Board of Education, after the Department of Education has received advice from the Office of Education Accountability; the School Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability Council; and the National Technical Advisory Panel on Assessment and Accountability, shall promulgate an administrative regulation under KRS Chapter 13A to establish the components of a school report card that clearly communicates with parents and the public about school performance. The school report card shall be sent to the parents of the students of the districts, and a summary of the results for the district shall be published in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county. It shall include, but not be limited to, the following components reported by race, gender, and disability when appropriate:

- (a) Student academic achievement, including the results from each of the assessments administered under this section;
- (b) Nonacademic achievement, including the school's attendance, retention, dropout rates, and student transition to adult life; and
- (c) School learning environment, including measures of parental involvement.”

The school and district report cards are also aligned with the requirements of *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)*.

The Kentucky Board of Education promulgated 703 KAR 5:140, Requirements for school and district report cards, in response to the requirements of KRS 158.6453 and is now proposing minor changes to the regulation to update some of the reporting categories and make the report card more meaningful for parents of students.

The changes to the proposed regulation remove one of the five teacher qualification categories related to certification, remove a statistic on alternative placement that is no longer collected and revise a technology category.

These changes, along with some other design work, will allow for a larger and more readable typeface.

A detailed listing of the proposed changes to regulation follows:

Page 2, lines 1-4 -- Removes the definition of certified teacher since this category will no longer be included in the Teacher Qualification category.

Rationale: Because of changes in teacher certification, this statistic is not as meaningful as it once was. (The second change below is a related change.)

Page 4, line 9 -- Removes the percent of classes taught by a teacher certified for subject and grade level.

Rationale: Because of changes in teacher certification, this statistic is not as meaningful as it once was. Also, this removes a burden on schools to compile this information.

Page 5, line 5 -- Removes the number of students transferred to alternative placement.

Rationale: This statistic is no longer collected.

Page 5, lines 10-12 -- Revises the technology topic to reflect the "number of students per Internet connected computer."

Rationale: All schools were reporting the previous statistic on the percentage of classrooms with at least one Internet access at 100 percent. This new category will have more relevance to parents.

Staff is also recommending that a measure of college entrance and second year return rate and a measure of the achievement gap, either from *NCLB* data or *CATS* data be included. How to include these is still under discussion and specific recommendations on these will come to the Board in December when the regulation comes back for final approval.

### **Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

The School Report Card contains valuable information about school quality and school improvement, and it is delivered to every public school parent or guardian in Kentucky. Improving the School Report Card will help build partnerships between parents and their schools.

### **Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

School report card coordinators at all districts were surveyed about the changes. Some 60 coordinators responded to a survey in August. They were overwhelmingly supportive of the proposals for the school report card. Comments indicated the coordinators believe the changes will make the report card more reader friendly, more meaningful for parents and easier for the districts to compile.

The Local Superintendents Advisory Council will forward their input on the regulation to the Board via a letter from that body following their September 27 meeting.

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**Deputy Commissioner**

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

October 2005

